

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please add the following new Paragraph before the first Paragraph on Page 1.

--CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a National Stage of International Application No. PCT/DE03/02503, filed July 25, 2003. This application claims priority to German Patent Application No. DE 102 35 100.7, filed on August 1, 2002. The disclosures of the above applications are incorporated herein by reference. --

Referring to the translation filed herewith:

Please add the following new Title before Paragraph 1 on Page 3.

--FIELD OF THE INVENTION--

Please add the following new Title before Paragraph 2 on Page 3.

--BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--

Please replace Paragraph 3 on Page 3 with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- The An object of the invention is to design a component of the generic type and a method of the generic type such that it can be produced in a simple and economical manner. --

Please delete Paragraph 4 on Page 3.

Please replace Paragraph 1 on Page 4 with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- In the inventive method ~~according to claim 12~~, the laser beam is directed through the one part directly onto the abutting surfaces. --

Please replace Paragraph 2 on Page 4 with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- ~~The inventive~~ An alternative method ~~according to claim 14~~ is used when the two parts to be welded together are not made of laser-absorbing material. Then the laser beam is directed through the third part, which reflects the laser beam to the abutting surfaces such that the two parts weld to one another at these abutting surfaces. --

Please add the following new Title before Paragraph 4 on Page 4.

-- BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS --

Please add the following new Title before Paragraph 4 on Page 5.

-- DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS --